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SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 26 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Inal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 26 July 1993 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the negative implications for the process of negotiations on the Cyprus issue, conducted under your auspices, of the report (Avis) issued by the Commission of the European Communities on 30 June 1993, concerning the unilateral application of the Greek Cypriot side for European Community (EC) membership.

I should first of all like to re-emphasize that, as it had also been explained to all concerned at the time, the unilateral Greek Cypriot application for Community membership is devoid of any legal basis, as it was made without any consultation with, and the assent of, the Turkish Cypriot side. It is neither compatible with the 1960 Agreements establishing the "Republic of Cyprus", according to which the basis of legitimacy was the political partnership and joint decision-making of the two national communities of equal political status; nor with the present realities prevailing on the island, namely, the existence of two separate, independent States, neither of which has the right or competence to act or take decisions on behalf of the other or the island as a whole.

Your Excellency will no doubt recall the tremendous difficulties that the Greek Cypriot application had created for the negotiations when it was submitted in July 1990. At a time when the process aimed at a mutually acceptable solution based on the free will and political equality of the two peoples was continuing, the efforts of one party to determine unilaterally the future of the island on as important a matter as EC membership was, and continues to be, totally contrary to the spirit and purpose of the negotiations. It was in cognizance of this fact that the Secretary-General, through his spokesman, had stated, on 11 September 1993, that the question of EC membership for Cyprus constitutes one of the issues that should be negotiated and agreed upon between the two sides within the framework of an overall settlement.

In spite of such a manifestation of lack of political will on the part of the Greek Cypriot side for a negotiated solution, the Turkish Cypriot side has since continued the talks, in the hope and expectation that the EC Commission would refrain from taking action on the application in the interest of the negotiating process. However, the report of the EC Commission, which states, inter alia, that "the Commission is willing to begin immediately talks with the Government of Cyprus", indicates that these hopes and expectations have been in vain.

In the light of the above and in awareness of the new obstacles that this development creates for the process of negotiations, I am confident that you will use your influence with all concerned so that the Greek Cypriot application for EC membership is not carried any further, deepening the existing lack of trust between the two sides and rendering your efforts more difficult.

I shall be grateful if this letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus